(d) if so, Government's action plan to control this rising trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no authenticated report to indicate this.

(d) The Government is attempting to check the rising trend through counseling, awareness camp and media publicity on negative aspects.

Rehabilitation of disabled persons

2117. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that disabled persons are most neglected;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Chief Commission for Persons with Disabilities have spent only Rs. 1.45 crore out of sanctioned outlay of Rs. 7.44 crore so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take for the rehabilitation of disabled persons in employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The utilization of funds is measured as difference in Revised Estimates and actual expenditure. Thus, out of revised estimate of funds of Rs. 3.05 crore allotted to the Office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities (CCD), an amount of Rs. 1.49 crore was spent. Major reason for non-utilisation of the funds was that the office of CCD could be set up only by the middle of the Ninth Plan due to administrative procedure involved in getting required clearances/approvals.

(d) The Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 provides for 3 per cent reservation in the vacancies for persons with disabilities in identified posts in the Central and State Government organizations. The Government has set up a committee to review the list of identified posts to improve employment opportunities for persons with disabilities in Government. The Government has been supporting the Vocational Training Centres and Vocational Rehabilitation Centres to train persons with disabilities for employment.

The National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation (NHFDC) has been providing soft loans to persons with disabilities through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs). A number of workshops have been planned in collaboration with NHFDC and State Governments to sensitize the NGOs to encourage persons with disabilities to take up self employment ventures. Two workshops have been conducted so far.

Inclusion in OBC/SC/ST list

2118. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending cases of requests for inclusion in the OBC/SC/ST list received from Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Punjab, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal etc.;

(b) the reasons for delay in consideration and finalization of these cases; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) There are 180 requests received from the States of Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Punjab, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal, for inclusion in the list of OBC/SC/ST, details of which are follows:

Name of the States	No. of requests received		
	OBC	SC	ST
Tamil Nadu	1	0	69
Rajasthan	6	0	18
Punjab	1	0	13
Jharkhand	0	1	37
Uttaranchal	3	0	31
TOTAL:	11	1	168